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J.G.J
6/4/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yutaka Tokiwa

Art Unit : 1651

Serial No. : 10/089,120

Examiner : V. Afremova

Filed : March 22, 2002

Title : A METHOD FOR DEGRADING POLYLACTIDE RESINS

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Responsive to the action mailed April 22, 2003, applicant elects the invention of Group I (claims 1 to 17) drawn to a method for degrading polylactic resins with actinomycetes and further electing the species, "Saccharothrix." Claims 1, 2, 3, and 18 read on Saccharothrix. The election is made without traverse.

A petition for an one moth extension and a requisite fee, which extend the filing date to June 22, 2003, are separately enclosed.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris T. Mizumoto

Reg. No. 42,899

Date: May 27, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

May 27, 2003

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